

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 L-02 /026 W  
----- 025512

P R 051030Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3172

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DOUALA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ABIDJAN 3731

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS

DAKAR FOR AMBASSADOR SMITH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (DAVIS, NATHANIEL), PFOR, IV

SUBJECT: PROPOSED PRESS CONFERENCE ON ARRIVAL AT ABIDJAN MAY 12

REF: A) STATE 101592, B) ABIDJAN 3318, C) STATE 093274

1. WE EXPECT A SHORT PRESS CONFERENCE UPON YOUR ARRIVAL HERE IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL CUSTOM. FOLLOWING DELIVERY OF BRIEF OPENING REMARKS (PROPOSED TEXT IN PARA 3 BELOW), IT IS CUSTOMARY HAVE SHORT QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH PRESS (SEE PARA 4).

2. BACKGROUND RE IVORIAN NEWS MEDIA. IVORY COAST TV, RADIO AND PRESS ARE GOIC OWNED AND CONTROLLED MONOPOLIES. ALL MEDIA REFLECT PARTY AND GOIC POSITIONS AND WE ARE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THERE WILL BE NO RPT NO DELIBERATELY PROVOCATIVE QUESTIONS FROM IVORIAN MEDIA ON SOUTHERN AFRICA (RHODESIA AND BYRD AMENDMENT, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID), FORMER PORTUGUESE AFRICA, OR OAU

STATEMENT ON YOUR NOMINATION (GOIC WAS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH OAU LETTER). RESIDENT OR VISITING NON-IVORIAN PRESS (AFP, REUTERS, ETC) WILL BE NOTIFIED OF PRESS CONFERENCE, HOWEVER, AND MIGHT BE MORE POINTED IN THEIR QUESTIONS. AS A GENERAL RULE, PRESS CONFERENCES IN IVORY COAST ARE NOT TAXING.

3. PROPOSED AIRPORT ARRIVAL STATEMENT. BEGIN TEXT. MR. MINISTER (IF FORMIN USHER OR SECSTATE MELEDJE ARE PRESENT), MR. AMBASSADOR, MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

A. MAY I TAKE THIS OCCASION TO SAY HOW HAPPY I AM TO BE MAKING THIS, MY FIRST TRIP TO AFRICA AS THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED STATES AND TO EXPRESS MY PARTICULAR PLEASURE AT BEING ABLE TO VISIT IVORY COAST FOR A SECOND TIME. AS SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW, I VISITED YOUR COUNTRY OVER 10 YEARS AGO AS ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN PEACE CORPS. AT THAT TIME I CAME AWAY WITH GREAT RESPECT FOR THE RAPID STRIDES TOWARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THIS COUNTRY WAS MAKING SO SHORTLY AFTER INDEPENDENCE, AND WITH MUCH GRATITUDE FOR THE TRADITIONALLY WARM AFRICAN HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO ME BY MY IVORIAN HOSTS, OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE. I THUS LOOK FORWARD TO MY ALL TOO BRIEF STAY HERE WITH SPECIAL ANTICIPATION.

B. DURING THIS VISIT, I SHALL BE ACCEPTING THE KIND INVITATIONS OF VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE IVORIAN GOVERNMENT AND OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS, NOTABLY THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND THE ENTENTE GUARANTEE FUND TO DISCUSS CURRENT ASPECTS OF IVORIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING AFRICAN ECONOMIES. IT SHALL BE MY SPECIAL HONOR TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT FELIX HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, A SENIOR AFRICAN STATESMAN WHO COMMANDS, AS WE ARE ALL WELL AWARE, THE HIGHEST RESPECT OF ALL IVORIANS AND AFRICANS NOT ONLY FOR HIS STEADY AND WISE LEADERSHIP OF IVORY COAST SINCE ITS INDEPENDENCE, BUT ALSO FOR HIS MEASURED COUNSEL ON PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO INTRA-AFRICAN PROBLEMS. I ALSO WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY IS HELD IN THE GREATEST ESTEEM BY AMERICANS AND OTHERS IN THE WESTERN WORLD FAMILIAR WITH AFRICA, FOR HIS STATESMANSHIP AND ROLE AS A SPOKESMAN FOR PRACTICAL AND EFFECTIVE POLICIES DESIGNED TO LEAD TO MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. I LOOK FORWARD TO MY MEETING WITH YOUR PRESIDENT AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND AFRICA AS A WHOLE.

C. I ALSO LOOK FORWARD TO AN ACTIVE STEWARDSHIP OF RELATIONS BETWEEN MY COUNTRY AND AFRICAN NATIONS DURING MY TERM AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY. DURING THE BRIEF CEREMONY WHEN I ASSUMED

MY PRESENT DUTIES, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. KISSINGER, SAID HE HOPED HE WOULD "BE ABLE TO GIVE NEW VIGOR TO OUR FOREIGN POLICY TOWARDS AFRICA AND TOWARDS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH AFRICAN COUNTRIES." HE ADDED "I HOPE THAT WE CAN FIND A NEW AND EVEN CLOSER RELATIONSHIP TO A CONTINENT WITH WHICH OUR PEOPLE HAVE MANY TIES AND TOWARDS WHICH WE HAVE VERY STRONG CONVICTIONS."

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 USIA-06 PA-01 SP-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02 /026 W

----- 025588

P R 051030Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3173

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DOUALA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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D. AS SECRETARY KISSINGER'S DEPUTY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS, I FULLY SHARE HIS CONVICTIONS AND ASSURE YOU I WILL DO MY BEST TO IMPLEMENT THEM.

E. MY CURRENT VISIT IS DUE IN LARGE PART TO THE PROMISE I MADE TO SEVERAL AFRICAN AMBASSADORS WHEN I BECAME THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY THAT I WOULD PAY A VISIT TO AFRICA AT THE FIRST POSSIBLE MOMENT. I AM HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO FULFILL THAT PROMISE SO SOON, AND LOOK FORWARD TO A FRUITFUL VISIT THAT WILL BETTER INFORM AND EQUIP ME TO HELP GUIDE AMERICAN POLICY VIS-A-VIS AFRICA. AS I STATED EARLIER, IT HAS BEEN 11 YEARS SINCE MY LAST VISIT TO THE IVORY COAST. I INTEND THAT MY NEXT ONE WILL BE MUCH SOONER. THANK YOU. END TEXT (PLEASE FORWARD ANY DESIRED CHANGES, ADDITIONS AS SOON AS

POSSIBLE.)

4. POSSIBLE QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTED ANSWERS. (WE WOULD EXPECT MOST QUESTIONS TO BE ON US POLICY TOWARDS AFRICA AS A WHOLE.)

A. QUESTION. US HAS STATED PUBLICLY IT OPPOSES APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA AND WHITE RULE IN RHODESIA. WHAT PRACTICAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEASURES CAN USG TAKE THAT WILL LEAD TO POLITICAL AND SOCIAL FRANCHISE OF BLACK AFRICANS IN BOTH COUNTRIES?

B. POSSIBLE TALKING POINTS: USG ARMS EMBARGO TO SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1962; USG EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE ALL AMERICAN PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA TO PROMOTE BLACK AND NON-WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS WITHIN THEIR FIRMS; ADMINISTRATION FIRMLY BEHIND REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT PERMITTING IMPORTATION OF RHODESIAN CHROME.

C. QUESTION. DOES YOUR APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY REFLECT ANY CHANGES IN US POLICY TOWARDS AFRICA, SOUTHERN AFRICA IN PARTICULAR?

D. POSSIBLE TALKING POINTS: CAN REFER TO SECRETARY OF STATE'S QUOTE IN YOUR OPENING REMARKS ON NEW "VIGOR" FOR US POLICY TOWARDS AFRICA, WITHOUT MENTIONING SOUTH AFRICA SPECIFICALLY.

E. QUESTION. WILL RECENT SETBACKS TO US POLICY IN S.E. ASIA LEADE TO LESS ACTIVE AMERICAN ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS?

F. QUESTION. WILL END OF HEAVY US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA MEAN HIGHER LEVELS OF US ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AID FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES?

G. QUESTION. WHAT SUBJECTS WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK OFFICIALS IN ABIDJAN?

H. QUESTION. WHAT ARE THE CHANCES OF THE US BECOMING A REGULAR AND FULL SUBSCRIBER TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND?

I. QUESTION. WHAT IS AMERICAN POLICY TOWARDS THE EFFORTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO OBTAIN HIGHER PRICES FOR THEIR COMMODITY EXPORTS IN THE FACT OF INFLATION AND THE RAPIDLY RISING COST OF MANUFACTURED IMPORTS FROM INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES?

J. POSSIBLE TALKING POINTS: US TRADE REFORM ACT, PASSED DECEMBER 1974, PROVIDES FOR GENERAL SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES ON IMPORTS FROM DEVELOPING ECONOMIES, INCLUDING IVORY COAST.

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K. QUESTION. WHY DID US REJECT RESOLUTION OF UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT HELD LAST MONTH IN LIMA, PERU?

L. POSSIBLE TALKING POINT: UNIDO RESOLUTION CALLED FOR INHERENT RIGHT OF ANY COUNTRY TO NATIONALIZE FOREIGN INVESTMENT WITHOUT MENTIONING RIGHT OF COMPENSATION OF INVESTOR.

5. EMBASSY IS ALSO PREPARING PRESS RELEASE SINCE OMISSION WOULD BE DISTINCTLY AT VARIANCE WITH LOCAL PRACTICE. RELEASE WOULD BE MADE MAY 12, DATE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL (REFTEL A.)

6. AMBASSADOR SMITH HAS CLEARED THIS MESSAGE.  
FERRITER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, PFOR, IV, (DAVIS, NATHANIEL)  
**To:** MONROVIA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006